

Amendment to the Specification

Please replace the pending title with the following new title:

NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING ESTERASES  
AND METHODS OF MAKING AND USING THEM

On page 1 of the specification, under the title, please replace paragraph [0001] (last amended in Applicants' response of March 24, 2006) with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] This application is a continuation-in-part of and claims the benefit of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/382,242, filed August 24, 1999, now abandoned; which is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/602,359, filed February 16, 1996, now issued U.S. Patent 5,954,430, all which are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety. ~~This application also elaims the benefit of priority to, and is a continuation of, PCT/US97/02039, filed February 11, 1997, published in English on August 21, 1997.~~